

Therefore, I encourage all Americans, especially those who are educators of our young, to set aside some classroom time this month to examine the Constitution in both celebration, and in review, as well as to promote a greater understanding of how the Constitution has contributed to making our country the great nation it is today.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FLOOD PREVENTION ACT OF 2016

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 14, 2016

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Flood Prevention Act of 2016. The bill would amend the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (CZMA) to include the District of Columbia in the definition of "coastal state." Our bill would correct what appears to be an oversight, in the omission of the District of Columbia, making the District eligible to receive federal funding and giving the District oversight for federally issued permits/facilities/and actions that affect the coastal waters of the District.

In an effort to reduce coastal flood risk, Congress has authorized a number of programs to help states and territories respond to floods and mitigate risk through resiliency projects. Among these programs, the CZMA provides planning and technical services to assist states in protecting, restoring, and developing coastal communities and resources. Once the federal government approves a state's coastal management plan, the state becomes eligible for grants. Federal actions must be consistent with the state plans.

Even though the District of Columbia has substantial coastal flood risks, D.C. is omitted from the list of eligible states and territories in the CZMA. The CZMA was passed in 1972—before the District achieved home rule. Under Section 304 of the CZMA, "coastal state[s]" include the states and the U.S. territories (Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands, and American Samoa). Absent from this definition is the District of Columbia, even though the District of Columbia is under threat from rising sea levels. Because the territories are included in the definition of "coastal states," it appears that D.C.'s omission is a mistake that only Congress can correct.

Scientists have predicted that the tides on the Atlantic Coast could rise two to four feet by the year 2100, causing as much as \$7 billion worth of property in the District to be routinely under threat by floodwaters. This damage not only includes private homes and businesses, but the National Mall, federal buildings, and three military bases located in the District. The Anacostia and Potomac rivers are both tidally influenced, showing tangible salt water effects (and fish) and are part of an "intertidal-zone" existing between high and low maritime tides. In addition, the Maryland and Virginia coastal zones each include the tidal Potomac River, with Maryland's zone ending at the District line. Because of these factors, the District of Columbia should be eligible for CZMA grants just like the states and territories.

I urge support for this bill.

RECOGNIZING MR. RON
OLSZEWSKI FOR RECEIVING A
PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENT
AWARD FROM THE
HEALTHSOUTH REHABILITATION
HOSPITAL OF ALTOONA

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 14, 2016

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Ron Olszewski, one of the winners of the 23rd annual Personal Achievement Award from the HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital of Altoona. This award is given to encourage and recognize those who have made an outstanding effort to deal with or overcome a disability. This year, Mr. Olszewski has earned that distinction.

Mr. Olszewski suffered a stroke in May of 2016. Fortunately, his wife, Rose, was able to recognize Ron's symptoms and ensured his delivery to the hospital. From there, Ron bravely underwent multiple tests and procedures, and treatment. Following his transfer to the HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital of Altoona, Ron continued to face adversity with a surprisingly calm demeanor. Thanks to his network of support and positive attitude, Ron has made impressive progress in his rehabilitation, and in so doing has inspired all those around him.

It is my honor to congratulate Ron on his remarkable efforts and promising improvements, as I believe that it is through role models like him that we learn that we can overcome our hardships. Furthermore, I am happy to recognize him for his perseverance, and I wish him the best as he continues to overcome this adversity.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE NATIONAL TECHNICAL ASSOCIATION 90TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 14, 2016

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on November 12, 1925, nine African American engineers, scientists, and architects met at the Wabash YMCA in Chicago and began plans to form the first national minority multidisciplinary technical organization. They founded the National Technical Association (NTA) to serve the minority community and this nation through technical leadership, technical innovation and research, and science education.

The following year, on August 26, 1926, NTA was incorporated in the state of Illinois. It was the only formally organized minority technical voice from 1926 until the early 1970s. NTA worked alongside other African American community organizations such as the NAACP, the Urban League, and the National Association of Black Professional Women to provide the technical perspective on issues facing minority communities.

NTA members have served as advisors to U.S. Presidents on technical matters starting

with President Herbert Hoover, whose presidential term coincided with that of the first NTA President, Charles S. Duke, 1929 through 1934. Duke met with Hoover in 1931 at a time when the President refused to meet with all other Black leaders. Under the leadership of Duke, NTA members advocated for years and helped to win support for better housing and housing assistance at the local and federal levels for minorities who were living in run-down, over-crowded tenements. Many of the NTA architects and engineers designed and built the resulting housing developments.

NTA members were among the first African Americans to obtain advanced degrees in science and engineering and many helped to develop science and engineering curricula and degree programs at Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Many NTA Members were scientists and engineers on the Manhattan Project, the nation's first big science project.

NTA members have pioneered scientific research breakthroughs and created technical innovations that have improved the quality of life of all Americans. This elite group includes entrepreneurs, top government administrators, corporate leaders, and exceptional senior scientists and engineers working in outer space exploration, energy research and development, environmental protection, climate change, computer science, and cybersecurity.

NTA members have been elected to the National Academy of Sciences and the National Academy of Engineering; selected as fellows of major technical societies across all fields of science and engineering, and been honored with the nation's highest technical awards, including as inductees in the National Inventors Hall of Fame.

NTA serves as a beacon of light and hope to minority youth and encourages them to follow their dreams and pursue technical studies and careers. It guides students to seek technical excellence and become technical innovators who will help secure the American economic future.

NTA is playing a pivotal role in uniting the collective voices of a multi-cultural coalition of minority technical organizations to promote the diversification of the technical workforce.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the National Technical Association for 90 years of vision and technical leadership provided to our nation. I am excited to join in the celebrations and encourage our nation to pay tribute to NTA and its membership on this historic occasion. Because of NTA, our nation is stronger technically, and the future of minority participation in science, technology, engineering and mathematics is forever brighter.

MRS. RITA KAY

HON. LEE M. ZELDIN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 14, 2016

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay a special tribute to Mrs. Rita Kay, who recently turned 100 years old on September 4, 2016.

Rita was born in Manhattan on September 4, 1916 to her parents Anna Squazzo Mullen and John Mullen. At 18 years old, Rita and her soon-to-be husband, John James Kay,